

persons. It is a curious illustration of the Cæsarism of the modern Colossus, who would bestride the world in imitation of the ancient despots of mankind.

About an hour's ride from Milan is the famous Convent of Certosa, shown in the cut below. The Convent was founded in 1396 by the originator of the Cathedral of Milan, Duke Gian Galeazzo Visconti, and was made over in 1398 to the Order of St. Bruno. Careful management of the revenues enabled the monks to adorn their church in its minutest details with the most mag-



THE CERTOSA, PAVIA.

nificent works of art. Some years ago the monastery was dissolved; the buildings were declared national property and placed under the charge of a few monks who were still allowed to remain. Standing so solitary and isolated in the midst of the fields, the church makes a peculiar impression upon us. No longer thronged with worshippers, its walls dead to the echo of the solemn chant, no longer fragrant with the fumes of incense, its altars desolate, the Convent-church of the peaceful, white-robed Carthusian monks has become a quiet Art Museum. The style of architecture is the Italian Gothic. The ceiling is painted blue, glittering with golden stars. Magnificent paintings, statues,